

the vehicle. Kristen did not realize she had backed over Collett until her child came into view in front of the car.

Sadly, Collett's tragedy is not an isolated incident. In April 2007, the child safety advocacy group, Kids and Cars, has documented 17 fatal backover incidents across the country—from Rochester, NY, and South Bend, IN, to San Francisco and Dallas. Six more incidents of fatal frontovers were reported in April, as well as a brake-shift interlock fatality.

While all these tragedies occurred in the last month, the danger of nontraffic, noncrash incidents is not a new trend. On average, a child dies in the United States nearly every other day from a completely preventable accident—backed over by a driver who couldn't see behind his or her vehicle, strangled in a power window, or killed when an automobile inadvertently shifts into gear.

Since 2000, over 1,150 children have died in nontraffic, noncrash incidents, and this number has been steadily rising. The average age of victims is between 12 and 23 months. This year alone, according to the research by the child safety group, Kids and Cars, 261 children have been involved in 235 of these incidents, resulting in 17 fatalities. At least 21 children in New York State have been victims of these incidents since 1990.

It is time we stopped these tragedies from happening to more families. And that is why I introduced, the Cameron Gulbransen Kids and Cars Safety Act, a bill to improve the child safety features in new vehicles.

This bill is named in honor of a 2-year-old Long Island boy who was killed when his father accidentally backed over him in his driveway.

The Cameron Gulbransen Kids and Cars Safety Act would make new passenger motor vehicles safer in three important ways. First, it requires a detection system to alert drivers to the presence of a child behind the vehicle. Second, it calls on the Secretary of Transportation to examine power windows technology that reverses panel direction when it detects an obstruction—preventing children from being trapped, injured, or killed. And, finally, the bill will require the vehicle service break to be engaged in order to prevent vehicles from unintentionally rolling away.

The bill also establishes a child safety information program administered by the Secretary of Transportation to collect nontraffic, noncrash incident data and disseminate information to parents about these hazards and ways to mitigate them.

This bill proves that with modest, cost-effective steps, we can prevent many tragic car-related accidents from occurring. Power window sensors, for example, cost around \$10 a window. Brakeshift interlocks are already standard in most passenger vehicles but will cost only \$5 where needed. Backover warning systems cost ap-

proximately \$300 a car, far cheaper than DVD and stereo systems. This inexpensive technology could save thousands of children's lives.

I fought long and hard into the last hours of the 109th Congress to get this bill through, and I am proud to be working with families, advocates, and many of my colleagues in the fight to get this bill passed.

I am proud to champion the Cameron Gulbransen Kids and Cars Safety Act of 2007 and urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill. Together, we can ensure that we have safer cars and safer kids across our country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MURPHY OIL AND THE EL DORADO PROMISE PROGRAM

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Madam President, today I wish to pay tribute to one of the top companies in the Nation and one that calls Arkansas home, Murphy Oil. In the May 2007 issue of Reader's Digest, Murphy Oil was named one of "America's 100 Best" in recognition of the El Dorado Promise scholarship program. Reader's Digest called the program the "Best Class Act" and nothing could be more true.

El Dorado Promise was created through a \$50 million gift from Murphy Oil Company. The advent of the program guarantees that all local high school graduates in the El Dorado community will be able to go to college. To be eligible for the program, students must, at minimum, graduate from El Dorado High School, live in the school district, and attend El Dorado High between the 9th and 12th grades. Depending on how long a student has lived in the school district, eligible students will receive tuition and mandatory fees assistance for up to 5 years and equal to the highest yearly rate charged by an Arkansas public university. Students must enroll in a community college or a 4-year university—public or private, in Arkansas or out of State—and maintain a 2.0 grade point average to remain eligible.

What a gift this is for this South Arkansas community and the families that live there. According to the Washington Post, it is one of the most generous scholarship programs in the Nation. When the program was announced in January at a school assembly, many in attendance were brought to tears.

I want to commend Claiborne Deming, the president and CEO of Murphy Oil, and the Murphy Oil board of directors for their vision and investment in the children of El Dorado. The commitment they are making to their community will provide wonderful opportunities for many Arkansas families. Murphy Oil's unselfish gift also will elevate the lives of so many young people and allow them to fully participate in our global economy.

Many colleges are offering to participate in the program, and El Dorado

Promise is already sparking interest as other communities attempt to find ways to offer similar programs. I am also hopeful that this scholarship program will set an example for other corporate citizens to make investments in their communities. It can go beyond dollars and cents, too. The donation of technology or even time in the form of mentoring programs can have a meaningful impact on students and communities in ways that cannot be measured.

Education is a national investment in our most precious resource, our children. The knowledge and training they receive will provide them with the tools they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. The Nation's ability to lead responsibility in the world, to effectively confront emerging threats, and to complete in the global economy will depend on providing all our future leaders with a quality education. The El Dorado Promise is a quality investment in those children who will, no doubt, reap Murphy Oil its greatest return for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TROY BUCK

• Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, tonight the students who belong to the Future Farmers of America chapter at Centerpoint High School located between Amity and Glenwood, AR, are having their annual banquet. Some of these students will graduate next week and begin new chapters in their lives. While every teacher there has contributed to the education of each student I rise to today to honor one teacher there, Troy W. Buck.

Troy Buck is a native of Alpine, which is located in Clark County in the southwest part of my State. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville and has spent 47 years in vocational agriculture impacting the lives of countless students along the way.

Troy Buck taught for 21 years at Hope High School and built the Hope FFA chapter into the largest in the State. He then moved to Amity, which merged with Glenwood in 1995 to create the Centerpoint School District. Today under Troy Buck's leadership, Centerpoint's FFA chapter has almost 300 students, making it one of the State's largest. It operates the only school-supported meats lab in the State and recently 98 acres was purchased for a school farm. In addition to his educational activities, Troy also farms 400 acres, most of which is in pasture or hay. He runs 100 head of cattle, operates 2 breeder hen houses, and produces Bermuda hay sold primarily to the racehorse market in nearby Hot Springs.

Troy Buck is also a volunteer in his community. The Rockefeller Foundation has recognized him as a leader in small communities. He helped establish and build a building to house an ambulance service in Amity. Troy has